



July 4-9

# PION-ERA

and Jubilee Threshermen's Re-union

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## *Souvenir Programme* *Saskatoon*

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Sponsored by THE WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM

Chairman—J. L. PHELPS

Curator—GEORGE SHEPHERD

Grounds and Hangar Supervisor—GEORGE Le BEAU  
SASKATOON







**I**N this Jubilee year that marks Saskatchewan's fiftieth year as a Province, the Western Development Museum at Saskatoon offers its Pion-Era Show and Jubilee Threshermen's Re-union as a tribute to the men and women who built the first homes and turned the first tough prairie sod.

The Western Development Museum was established in 1947 to preserve the tools and machines the old-timers used to tame the "Wild West" and make it one of the world's greatest producers of food. The eagerness with which Canadians seized upon the idea has greatly enriched the collection of pioneering machines. As a result, the Museum now houses in addition to early farm machinery, a notable collection of ancient automobiles; almost every type of horse-drawn vehicle, from Timothy Eaton's top buggy to Saskatoon's first fire engine. Branding irons from famous ranches hang next to a display of old weapons. Red River carts with hide-covered tires; side-saddles, and a dainty china doll, share room with the Giants of the Plains—the monster steam and gas engines. The Western Development Museum, while supported by an annual grant from the Provincial Government, is run by an independent board, and is still largely a voluntary effort, dependent on the generosity and interest of individuals.



Hot from the old clay oven and fit for a king . . . or a hungry old timer.

# **PION-ERA AND JUBILEE THRESHERMEN'S REUNION**

## **SASKATOON, JULY 4-9, 1955**

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*Chairman*—J. L. PHELPS

*Grounds and Hangar Supervisor*—GEORGE LE BEAU

Running commentary on events over public address system by George Shepherd  
*Museum Curator*

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### **In Charge of Demonstrations and Exhibits**

*Steam Engines*—Fred Leigh, Saskatoon; E. L. Gramson, Delisle.

*Gas Engines*—John Leigh, Saskatoon; Walter Smith, Saskatoon.

*Cordwood, Lumber Sawing*—R. Munroe, Saskatchewan Timber Board.

*Oxen*—M. Leigh, Plunkett.

*Heavy Horses*—Douglas Charles, Pleasantdale.

*Light Horses and Shetland Chariot Races*—Gerritt Nyholt, North Battleford.

*Pony Rides*—Harvey Claypool, Beechy.

*Ancient Autos*—Emil Lanz, Saskatoon.

*Threshing Demonstrations*—J. L. Phelps, Saskatoon.

*Plowing Demonstrations*—Fred Leigh, Saskatoon.

*Obstacle Races (Steamers)*—Wes Hamilton, Saskatoon.

*Engine Races*—J. L. Phelps, Saskatoon.

*Setting Up Contests*—W. A. Frew, Pense; R. L. Gramson, Delisle; Lee Phelps, Wilkie.

*Prony Brake Tests*—Lorne Bucknam, Saskatoon.

*Incline and Pyramid*—E. L. Gramson, Delisle.

*Dogs and Dog Wheel*—"Scotty" Stewart, Saskatoon.

*Harness Shop*—Jimmy Madden, Saskatoon.

*Blacksmith Shop*—DeWitt Wood, Davidson, and A. E. Friend, Purdue.

*Firing Range for Muzzle-loaders*—E. Irwin, Wilkie.

*Display of Model Steam Engines*—Guy Duncan, Hanley.

*Clay Bake Oven*—(Built by Alex. Stadnyk, Chioiceland).

### **Parade Marshals**

C. A. Wheaton and T. F. M. Porteous, Saskatoon.

### **Pioneer Women's Demonstrations and Exhibits**

*Chairwoman*—Mrs. J. L. Phelps, Saskatoon.

*Kitchen Convener*—Mrs. Peter Denholm, Saskatoon.

*Dining Room Convener*—Mrs. Frank Eliason, Saskatoon.

*Parlor Convener*—Mrs. Lorne Bucknam, Saskatoon.

*Weaving and Weaving Display Convener*—Mrs. H. H. Wiebe, Saskatoon.

# Pion-Era, Monday, July 4, 1955



## OLD HOMESTEAD DAY

### Morning Programme—July 4

- 10:00 a.m.** Preliminary setting-up contests with gas and steam engines.  
Demonstrations of steamers on incline and pyramid.  
Prony Brake Test.  
Dog Wheel water-pumping demonstration.  
The first batch of bread for the old clay oven.  
The “political” engine (powered by hot air.)
- 11:00 a.m.** Firing Range demonstration inside Museum Hangar, using the old muzzle-loader. On display, an 18-pound buffalo gun, other old-type rifles and firearms.

### Afternoon Programme—July 4

- 1:30 p.m.** Official Opening—Saskatchewan Minister of Public Works, Hon. J. A. Darling.
- 1:45 p.m.** Opening Parade on Museum Grounds—25 big steamers, 15 big gas engines, oxen and horses, carts, wagons, buggies, ancient autos, small steam and gas tractors, original settlers and early pioneers, machinery, ponies, riders, etc.
- 2:45 p.m.** Engine Whistles—Demonstration of threshing and locomotive signals.

## **AFTERNOON PROGRAMME CONTINUED — JULY 4**

- 3:00 p.m.** Plowing Demonstration, using oxen and horses.  
Day's final setting-up contests.  
Prony Brake Tests.
- 3:30 p.m.** Plowing Demonstration with Reeves Cross-Compound Steamer pulling 14 bottoms.  
At the Sawmill—Sawing Demonstration using horsepower sweep and whipsaw; also sawing with steam.
- 4:00 p.m.** Daily Threshing Demonstration—using the flail, the horse treadmill, the horse-sweep, the combination “one-lunger” thresher, and the Northwest return-flue “straw burner” with a Northwest separator.
- 5:00 p.m.** Testing the pulling power of horses with the dynamometer.  
Steam and Gas Engine race for home.
- 5:30 p.m.** Show's over.

## **OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS**

### **Shetland Pony Chariot Races Every Afternoon.**

Afternoon rides in pioneer vehicles for old-timers.

Rides for Children (22 Shetlands, two white donkeys.)

Display of Model Steam Engines in the Museum Hangar.

Old Time Harness Shop.

Pioneer Blacksmith Shop.



## **PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAM—MONDAY, JULY 4**

### **2:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Demonstrations and exhibits in pioneer kitchen, dining room and parlor  
in the Museum Hangar.

Wash Day; Bread-raising.

Quilting and Rug-making.

Knitting and Fine Hand-sewing.

Carding, Weaving, Spinning, Skein-winding (four-harness and box looms.)

Tea Party for workers in pioneer home.

On Display—hand-woven articles; a warping frame, winder, and racks  
showing threads used in weaving.

# Pion-Era, Tuesday, July 5, 1955



## ORIGINAL SETTLERS' (Indians') DAY

### Morning Programme, July 5

- 10:00 a.m.** Preliminary setting-up contests with gas and steam engines.  
Demonstrations of steamers on incline and pyramid.  
Prony Brake Tests.  
A batch of bread for the old clay oven.  
Cordwood and lumber sawing at the sawmill.
- 11:00 a.m.** Firing Range demonstration inside Museum Hangar, using muzzle-loaders. Display of other ancient firearms, including 18-pound buffalo gun.  
Dog Wheel Demonstration.  
Harness-Maker and Blacksmith.

### Afternoon Programme, July 5

- 1:30 p.m.** Official Opening, Chief Harry Littlecrow, White Caps Sioux Indian Reservation, Dundurn.
- 1:45 p.m.** Parade on Museum Grounds—Indians, ponies, horses, oxen, big steamers and gas engines, smaller steam and gas-powered tractors, carts, wagons, buggies, ancient autos, farm machinery, riders, covered wagons, etc.
- 2:45 p.m.** Striking and Pitching an Indian "Tipi."
- 3:00 p.m.** Six-horse Team Driving Demonstration.



## AFTERNOON PROGRAMME CONTINUED — JULY 5

- 3:15 p.m.** Plowing Demonstration with oxen, horses, and 14-bottom plow, pulled by Reeves Cross-Compound Steamer.  
Daily finals for setting-up contests.  
Prony Brake Tests.  
Demonstrations with steamers on incline and pyramid.  
Sawmill demonstration, using horses, sweep, steam power, etc.
- 3:45 p.m.** Obstacle (Engine) Race.
- 4:00 p.m.** Daily Threshing Demonstration, using flail, horse treadmill, horse-sweep, Combination thresher, and Northwest return-flue "straw-burner" with Northwest separator.
- 5:00 p.m.** Pumping water by dog wheel.  
Steam and Gas Engine Race for Home.
- 5:30 p.m.** Au Revoir.

## OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS

Shetland Pony Chariot Races.

Afternoon rides in bugs, gigs, ancient autos, surreys, etc., for all (old-timers free.)

Rides for children—Shetlands and donkeys.

Model Steam Engine display in Museum Hangar.

Old-time Harness Shop.

How horses were shod.



## PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAMME—TUESDAY, JULY 5

**2.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.**

Demonstrations and exhibits in pioneer rooms, on display in Museum Hangar.

Ironing; churning; bread-raising.

Quilting and rug-hooking demonstrations.

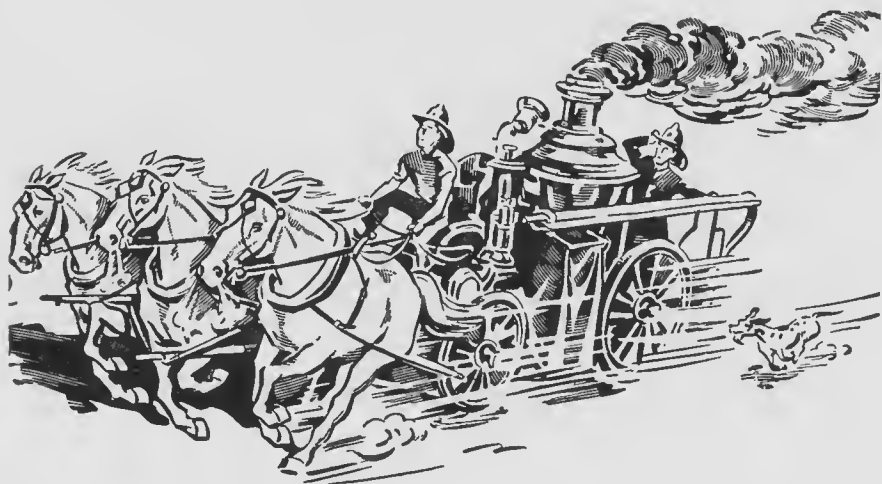
The "Literary" Club (Votes for Women!)

Carding, weaving, spinning, and hand-woven exhibits.

Lunch for Women Workers.

## SASKATOON JUBILEE COMMITTEE SHOW IN EVENING

**Pion-Era, Wednesday, July 6, 1955**



## **SASKATCHEWAN DAY**

**“HATS OFF TO THE PAST—COATS OFF TO THE FUTURE!”**

### **Morning Programme, July 6**

**10:00 a.m.** Monster Parade through Saskatoon streets to the Western Development Museum, with bands, clowns, riders, ancient autos and machines, etc.

### **Afternoon Programme, July 6**

**1:30 p.m.** Official Opening, Premier T. C. Douglas.

**1:45 p.m.** Shetland Pony Chariot Races.

**2:00 p.m.** Six-horse team driving demonstrations.

**2:30 p.m.** Obstacle Races.

**2:45 p.m.** Plowing Demonstration with oxen, horses, and 14-bottom plow pulled by Reeves Cross-Compound steamer.

Day's Final Setting-up Contests.

Prony brake tests.

Demonstration with steamers on incline and pyramid.

**3:30 p.m.** At the sawmill—Cordwood and lumber sawing with horse-sweep, steam engine, etc.

## AFTERNOON PROGRAMME CONTINUED — JULY 6

- 4:00 p.m.** Daily threshing demonstration using the flail, horse tread-mill, horse-sweep, Combination thresher, and the Northwest threshing outfit—"strawburner and separator."
- 5:00 p.m.** Whistle signals—Threshing outfits and locomotive language.
- 5:15 p.m.** Steam and Gas Engine Race for home.
- 5:30 p.m.** Good-by until tomorrow.

## OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS

Rides in ancient autos, gigs, carts, surreys, buggies, wagons, for all comers (old-timers free.)

Pony rides for the very young.

Baking bread in the old clay oven.

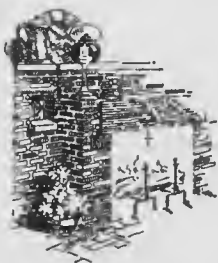
Demonstrations in Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop.

Pumping water by dog wheel.

Display of model steam engines in museum hangar.

Firing Range demonstration with muzzle-loaders in museum hangar.

Display of ancient firearms.



## PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 6**

**2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Demonstrations and exhibits in pioneer rooms on display in Museum Hangar.

What the well-dressed woman wore—old-time fashion parade by members of the Pioneer Women's Committee.

Bread raising—quilting—rug making—weaving.

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## SASKATOON JUBILEE COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN EVENING



## **PIONEER WOMEN'S DAY**

### **Morning Programme, July 7**

**10:00 a.m.** Bread baking in the old clay oven.

Preliminary setting-up contests with gas and steam engines.

Demonstrations with steamers on incline and pyramid.

Prony brake tests.

Sawmill Demonstration, using steam engine.

**11:00 a.m.** Firing Range Demonstration inside Museum Hangar, using muzzle-loaders. Display of other ancient firearms, including 18-pound buffalo gun.

Pumping water with the dog wheel.

Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop Demonstrations.

### **Afternoon Programme, July 7**

**1:30 p.m.** Official Opening, Mrs. Mabel Bradley, Milestone, Sask.

**1:45 p.m.** Parade on Museum Grounds: Ancient engines, big and little; horseless carriages; covered wagon, buggies, carts, etc. Riders, drivers, etc.

**2:45 p.m.** Ladies' Riding Demonstration with side-saddle, and astride with divided skirt.

## AFTERNOON PROGRAMME CONTINUED — JULY 7

- 3:00 p.m.** Plowing demonstration with oxen, horses and 14-bottom plow pulled by Reeves, Cross-Compound steamer.  
Daily final setting-up contests.  
Prony brake tests.  
Demonstration with steamers.  
At the sawmill—Cutting cordwood and lumber with horse-sweep and whipsaw; sawing with steam engine.
- 4:00 p.m.** Daily Threshing Demonstration, using the flail, horse-sweep, horse treadmill, Combination “one lungers,” and the North-west threshing outfit of “strawburner” and separator.
- 5:00 p.m.** Steam and Gas Engine Race.
- 5:15 p.m.** Whistle signals; threshing and locomotive.
- 5:30 p.m.** Knock-off for Supper.

## OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS

Shetland Pony Chariot Races.  
Rides in old-time vehicles for the grown-ups (old-timers free.)  
Pony rides for children.  
Bread baking in the clay oven.  
Dog power.  
Display of model steam engines in Museum Hangar.  
Harness Shop.  
Blacksmith Shop.

## PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

**THURSDAY, JULY 7**

**2:45 to 5:30 p.m.**

Displays and activities in Pioneer Rooms on display in Museum Hangar.  
Raisin' bread; quilting; rug-making; spinning and weaving.

JUBILEE TEA for Life Members of Saskatoon Old Timers' Association, sponsored by the Hudson's Bay Company; Jubilee Cake donated by McGavin's Bakeries Limited, Saskatoon.

*Master of Ceremonies*—H. O. Wright.

National costumes and display of handicraft.

Sing-Song by Kindersley Homemakers' Weaving Club.

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## SASKATOON JUBILEE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES IN EVENING

**Pion-Era, Friday, July 8, 1955**



## **DUST EATER'S DAY**

### **Morning Programme, July 8**

- 10:00 a.m.** More bread making in the old clay oven.  
Preliminary setting-up contests with gas and steam engines.  
Demonstrations with steamers.  
Prony brake tests.  
Sawmill Demonstration with whipsaw and horse-sweep.
- 11:00 a.m.** Testing horse pulling power with the dynamometer.  
Pumping water with the dog wheel.  
Harness Shop.  
Blacksmith Shop.  
Firing Range Demonstration in Museum Hangar; display of ancient firearms, including 18-pound buffalo gun.

### **Afternoon Programme, July 8**

- 1:30 p.m.** Official Opening, Saskatoon's Mayor John McAskill.
- 1:45 p.m.** Parade on Museum Grounds: Everything that will move—steam, gas, ancient autos, oxen, horses, humans, etc.
- 2:45 p.m.** Pickup in ancient vs. modern gas buggies.
- 3:00 p.m.** Striking and pitching an Indian "Tipi."

**3:15 p.m.** Fancy driving with six-horse team.

**3:30 p.m.** Plowing Demonstration; oxen, horses, and steamer pulling 14 bottoms.

Day's final setting-up contest.

Demonstration with steamers on incline and pyramid.

At the sawmill—sawing lumber with steam engine.

**4:15 p.m.** Daily Threshing Demonstration: Flail, treadmill, horse-sweep, Combination Thresher, and Northwest Outfit of "strawburner" and separator.

**5:15 p.m.** Engine Race and Whistle Signals.

**5:30 p.m.** Power is Off.

## **OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS**

Shetland Pony Chariot Races.

Surrey, stagecoach, covered wagon and ancient auto rides for them as likes such (old timers free.)

Pony rides for the youngsters.

Model steam engines on display in museum.

Demonstrations in harness and blacksmith shops.

Day-long baking in the clay oven.



## **PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAMME**

**FRIDAY, JULY 8**

**2:45 to 5:30 p.m.**

Displays and activities in Pioneer Rooms on display in Museum 'Hangar.

Mending, quilting, rug-making.

Polishing, dusting and cleaning.

The Ladies' Aid Meeting and Tea.

Musical Numbers: Soloist, Mrs. Sybil Tupman; accompanist, Mrs. Bernice Norman.

Display of carding, spinning, weaving, hand-woven articles, threads, etc.

**Pion-Era, Saturday, July 9, 1955**



## **FARMERS' DAY**

### **SALUTE TO THE PIONEERS**

#### **Morning Programme, July 9**

- 10:00 a.m.** Saturday's batch of bread for the old clay oven.  
Preliminary setting-up contests with gas and steam engines.  
Horse-pulling contests with dynamometer.  
Demonstrations with steamers on incline and pyramid.  
Prony brake tests.  
Sawmill Demonstration.

- 11:00 a.m.** Pumping water with dog wheel.  
The "political" engine (powered with hot air.)  
Harness Shop.  
Blacksmith Shop.  
Firing Range Demonstration inside Museum Hangar.  
Display of ancient firearms.

#### **Afternoon Programme, July 9**

- 1:30 p.m.** Official Opening—Jake Schulz, chairman Interprovincial Farm Union Council, Winnipeg.
- 1:45 p.m.** Going away parade on Museum grounds—Oxen, ponies, horses, ancient autos, giant steamers and gas tractors; Indians, old-timers; farm machinery; everything that turns a wheel or shakes a hoof at Pion-Era.



## AFTERNOON PROGRAMME CONTINUED — JULY 9

- 2:45 p.m.** Shetland Pony Chariot Races.
- 3:00 p.m.** Fancy driving with six-horse teams.
- 3:15 p.m.** Finals in horse pulling demonstrations with dynamometer.
- 3:30 p.m.** Finals in setting-up contests.  
Final demonstration at sawmill with horse-sweep, whipsaw, and steam engine.
- 4:00 p.m.** Final threshing demonstration with flail, treadmill, horse-sweep, Combination thresher, and Northwest threshing rig of "straw burner" and separator.
- 5:00 p.m.** Trick Riding and Roping, by Gibb Potter.
- 5:30 p.m.** Stagecoach Hold-up.  
Home to get ready for the Big Doings in the Museum at Night.

## OTHER DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PIONEER VISITORS

Model steam engine displays; free rides for old timers; pony rides for children; the Dog Wheel; the Bake-oven; the Women's Programme, etc.

### PIONEER WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

**2:45 to 5:30 p.m.**

Demonstrations and Displays in Pioneer Rooms in the Museum Hangar.  
Mending and catching up with the news; getting ready for Sunday.

### EVENING PROGRAMME—JULY 9

*"Ladies, cross your lily white hands and gents your black and tan."*

*Master of Ceremonies—Gerry Hawley.*

**Music by Primrose Ranch Gang**

- 8:00 p.m.** French Minuet, performed by members of the Saskatoon Friendship Group.
- 8:30 p.m.** SQUARE DANCING.  
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO CONTEST WINNERS.  
OLD TIME FIDDLERS' CONTEST.  
DANCING.

**12:00 Midnight** PIONEER DRAWS FOR JUBILEE HAND-KNITTED SWEATER AND JUBILEE QUILT.  
AULD LANG SYNE.



On the Trail to Pion-Era—1955





Parade of Ancient Engines awaits the whistle signal that opens Pion-Era.